



THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

GAU 1638
RECEIVED
OCT 30 2000

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Applicants: Oliver P. Peoples, Lara L. Madison, and Gjalte W. Huisman

Serial No.: 09/364,847

Group Art Unit: 1638

#9a 10/31/00
T. Bray

Filed: July 30, 1999

Examiner: A. Nelson

For: ENZYMES FOR BIOPOLYMER PRODUCTION

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT
AND SPECIES ELECTION REQUIREMENT
AND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action mailed September 29, 2000, please consider the following election and remarks and amend the application as follows.

I. The Restriction and Species Election Requirements and Elections Thereof

The Office Action divided claims 1-14 into two groups: Group I, claims 1-6, drawn to a fusion protein; and Group II, claims 7-14, drawn to DNA encoding a fusion protein. Applicants elect, without traverse, to prosecute, Group I claims 1-6, drawn to a fusion protein.

The Examiner asserts that either of Group I or II is directed to a plurality of patentably distinct species of proteins and requires election of a single combination of two proteins (E1 and